



## HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Sangre de Cristo HPP Committee Meeting  
February 21, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.  
Lathrop State Park

### Committee Members Present:

- Cody Purcell - CPW
- John Stroh - Livestock Grower
- Kenn Lutz - Livestock Grower
- Warren McDonald - Livestock Grower
- Paul Coe - Sportsperson
- Glenda Torres - BLM
- Jeff Outhier - USFS

### Administrative Assistant Present:

Kimberly Berscheid

### Attendees Present:

Mike Brown - CPW  
Zoe Moffat - NRCS  
Patty Knupp - NRCS (V)  
Bob Holder - CPW  
Spencer Gerk - CPW  
Chad Schreivogel - CPW  
Gretchen Holschuh - CPW  
Tim Canturbury - Landowner  
Bill Canturbury - Landowner (V)  
Molly Fales - CCA (V)  
Dylan Thomsen - CPW (V)  
Allen Vitt - CPW

### Introductions

Committee members and guests were introduced.

### Budget Report

The remaining budget at the start of the meeting was \$25,000.

### Old Business

The September 28, 2023, meeting minutes were approved as written.

### New Business

\*Admin Note: the agenda was rearranged to accommodate the applicant's time restraints.\*

#### Bosque del Oso SWA Well Repairs-

Dylan Thomsen asked the committee for \$2,750 to repair a well in the State Wildlife Area. Before the meeting, he obtained approval from Mike Brown - Area 11 Area Wildlife Manager, and Frank McGee - Southeast Regional Manager. The existing well casing has failed, causing the pump to seize. The well provides a water source for elk and deer in a canyon with no additional water. The project will reduce game damage claims on neighboring hay fields.

The project was approved for \$2,750 from the State Wildlife Area funds for well repairs and is contingent upon funding approval from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation as a project match. John Stroh provided his proxy vote.

### Lower Canturbury Ranches Conservation Easement-

Bill, Tim Canturbury, and Molly Fales asked the committee for \$10,000 for transaction costs on the Lower Canturbury Ranch. Developments have surrounded the property, significantly reducing critical habitat for elk and deer. Entering the property into a conservation easement will ensure protection from development in perpetuity.

**The project was approved for \$10,000 for conservation easement transaction costs. John Stroh provided his proxy vote.**

### Weed Spraying Projects: Pueblo South, Swallows, and Upper Red Cliff State Wildlife Areas (SWA)-

Gretchen Holschuh asked the committee for \$18,000 (\$6,000 per property) for herbicide and weed treatment on the three SWAs. Before the meeting, she obtained approval from Mike Brown - Area 11 Area Wildlife Manager, and Frank McGee - Southeast Regional Manager. Noxious weeds, including Canada Thistle, White Top, Russian Thistle, Leafy Spurge, and Kochia, have infested the SWAs, reducing forage for elk, deer, and pronghorn. Treatment will be done with the chemical Banvel, which will protect and preserve native grasses. Initial treatment will be done professionally; additional chemicals will be purchased and applied by CPW staff as needed.

**The project was approved for \$18,000 from the State Wildlife Area funds for herbicide and treatment of the SWAs. It is contingent upon funding approval from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation as a project match. John Stroh provided his proxy vote.**

### Healey Stackyard-

Bob Holder asked the committee for \$3,159.84 for materials to construct a permanent stackyard on the Healey property. Elk and deer decimated an entire haystack. Based on their requirements, Mr. Healey does not qualify for the Game Damage program.

**The committee denied the project funding due to poor range conditions and the availability of alternative temporary panels from CPW.**

### Remaining Committee Business

#### Meeting Schedule-

The next committee meeting is TBD.

### Roundtable

Kim Berscheid provided updates from Michael Blanck, including State Council budget decisions and the new Lands and Recreation Branch under which HPP will reside.

Mike Brown discussed current happenings with CPW and provided information regarding the Eastern Slope Mountain Lion Plan that is in the works. Public meetings will be held throughout the region, with the first on Friday, February 23, 2024, at Trinidad State College, from 6-7:30 p.m. Additional meetings are listed on the CPW website, and virtual options will be offered.

Allen Vitt mentioned that his big game flights have concluded. The mountain lion study is ongoing and will continue next year with a push to collar as many cats as possible. A final population estimate is expected next year.

Jeff Outhier said he will not work in Kansas this year but anticipates being available. A project in the Cuchara area involving prescribed burns, hydro axe treatment, and timber sales has been successful and will continue.

Glenda Torres updated the committee on a large-scale habitat project in McCoy Gulch.

The applicants present at the meeting thanked the committee for their funding support.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:50 a.m.